S.P. Cr. Sb. 163 In Serbia, the number of births is 44.15 per 1,000; in Croatia, 44.18; in Damatia, 38.39; in Istria 37.43. In Bulgaria the rate is only 36.36. But if we take into consideration only the legal marriages, we ascertain that for every 1,000 women there were 290 births at Gorica, 273 in Istria, 257 in Dalmatia, 215 in Serbia (same figure in Bulgaria). This is a relatively low birth rate, and, in Serbia and Croatia, the lowest in Europe. Thus it seems that the large number of births depends only upon the number of marriages and not upon fecundity.

S.P. Cr. Sb. 165 /171/ According to Vrbanic the death rate is 30.24 per 1,000 in Croatia, 27.79 in Istria, 27.16 at Gorica, 25.67 in Serbia, 24.38 in Dalmatia. (It is only 18.00 in Bulgaria). The death rate is then higher in Serbia than in Bulgaria. In Bulgaria, in fact, far fewer infants died during their first year (8.3% only, 16.3% in Serbia, 15.4% in Dalmatia, 21.2% in Croatia). The rate of increase through births is, then, 1.83% for Bulgaria, 1.87% for Serbia, 1.4% for Dalmatia, 1.39% for Croatia, 0.98% for Gorica, 0.96% for Istria, which gives an average for the southern Slavs of 1.57%.

S.P. Cr. Sb. 162 795 Religion is one of the principal marks which distinguish the Croats from the Serbs: the Croats are Catholics, the Serbs Orthodox and Mohammedans. But this is not an absolute indication. There are Orthodox who consider themselves to be Croats. Thus the latest Croat statistics give 2,075 more Orthodox than the Serbs who were enumerated (616,518 Orthodox against 614,543 Serbs). And there also are numerous Catholics who consider themselves to be Serbs or who are claimed by the Serbs. Such are, for example, the Catholics of Dubrovnik (Ragusa) and of the Gulf of Kotor (Cattaro), or the Sokci, the Bunievci and the Krasovani of Hungary.

In the Kingdom of Serbia, Serb means Orthodox. There are 98.7% Orthodox, /172/ 0.40% Catholic, 0.60% Mohammedan. In 1895 there were 548,632 Serbian Mohammedans in Bosnia-Hercegovina (that is 34.9% of the population). But it must be stated that they are decreasing through emigration. Official statistics have, between 1883 and 1905, given 32,625 emigrants of whom 30,434 were Mohammedan. In Bosnia and Hercegovina there were reported 637,246 Orthodox (that is 42.9% of the total population), and 334,142 (21.3%) Catholic. (1)

S.P. Cr. Sb. [167]

1. In Bosnia-Hercegovina the Mohammedans are in the majority at Saraievo and in 12 districts, the Orthodox in 25, the Catholics

1: Niederle--126 E-5 1911 E16 Slavic Peoples E16
Bulgaria EE1

work of Vrbanic, who goes back to the census of 1888.

S.P. B. 163 [162] He[1] presents the following results:

Among the Bulgars the number of men is 1,000 for every 965 women; the males show an excess of births of 54.2%; the ratio between single persons to married persons is for men, 53%; for women 41.9% (4.4% widowers). The birth rate is 36.36 per 1,000; it is below that of the Serbs; on the contrary, the death rate is less than among these, only 18. (compare the figures given above in Section 31). In Bulgaria very few infants die during the first year. They have the lowest infant mortality of any among the South-Slavs /203/ (8.3% only, against 15.4% in Dalmatia, 16.3% in Serbia, 21.2% in Croatia). As a result of this peculiarity, the coefficient of the excess of births over deaths is, if Jirecek is to be believed, as favorable as in Serbia, it represents 1.83. For the years 1881-1887, Sarafov found an increase of 1.85 (during this period there were born 100 boys for 89.7 girls); for the period 1890-1900, the coefficient was, it seems, slightly less. More recently, Iurkevich suggested the figure of 1.5 for the north of Bulgaria and of 1.2 for the south.

S.P. B. 161 According to Popov, the population density is 38.8 inhabitants per square kilometer.

S.P. B. 795 From the religious viewpoint the Bulgars belong to the Eastern Orthodox Church. They have a church of their own whose head, called The Exarch, lives at Orta-koi (now Ivailovgrad) near Constantinople. Along with the Orthodox majority, one finds two dissident groups. The first of these is the Catholic Bulgars, or Paulitians (Pavlikiani). They speak the eastern dialect and live in the districts of Nikopol, of Svishtov, in seven villages in the outskirts of Plovdiv (Philippopolis). There is also a Catholic community at Berdavski Geran, near Byala Slatina, and another, that of Gostilia, near Oryakhovo (district of Vratsa). All of them originated in the region of Plovdiv or Philippopolis, which was formerly their center. They formerly composed a whole series of communities between Plovdiv and /204/ Nikopol. It is from these that there came the colonies of Bulgars who settled in Hungary (Vinga, Besenov), and who are Catholics.

S.P. B. 795 101 Another rather sizeable section is composed of the Bulgars who, under Turkish domination, embraced Islam. They are called Pomaks.

[1] [i.e. Vrbanic, op. cit. 116, p. 125--Analyst]